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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/719,144	03/30/2001	Hendrika Cornelia Kuzee	310.1016	5149

22856 7590 05/27/2003

MUSERLIAN, LUCAS AND MERCANTI, LLP
600 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

EXAMINER

BOYER, CHARLES I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1751

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/719,144

Applicant(s)

Kuzee et al

Examiner

Charles Boyer

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 25, 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 9-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to applicants' amendment and response received March 25, 2003. Claims 1-7 and 9-16 are currently pending.

Double Patenting

1. Claim 11 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7 and 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Besemer et al, US 5,326,864.

Besemer et al teach polycarboxy compounds based on polysaccharides (see abstract). Polycarboxyinulin is prepared having calcium complexing properties (col. 7, claim 1). These

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compounds are used as replacements for phosphates in detergents (see abstract). Besemer et al do not specifically teach a method for removing contaminants from textiles, however, as the compounds of Besemer et al are designed for use in laundry detergents, removing contaminants from textiles would necessarily result from the use of such a detergent.

Applicants have attempted to obviate this rejection by adding the phrase “an effective amount” when referring to the fructan polycarboxylic acid. As Besemer teaches these compounds as builders for use in laundry detergents, one of ordinary skill in the detergent arts is well aware of what would constitute an effective amount of builder additive. If an effective amount were not used, the detergent would not have calcium complexing properties and thus would not be effective. Accordingly, the examiner maintains the amount of polycarboxyinulin present in the detergents of Besemer is effective and so the rejection is maintained.

4. Claims 1-7 and 9-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verraest et al, US 5,777,090.

Verraest et al teach carboxymethyl inulin having calcium complexing properties (col. 7, claim 1). These compounds are used as scale inhibitors in the washing of laundry (col. 1, lines 28-30). Verraest et al do not specifically teach a method for removing contaminants from textiles, however, as the compounds of Verraest et al are designed for use in laundry detergents, removing contaminants from textiles would necessarily result from the use of such a detergent.

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Applicants have attempted to obviate this rejection by adding the phrase “an effective amount” when referring to the fructan polycarboxylic acid. As Verraest teaches these compounds as builders for use in laundry detergents, one of ordinary skill in the detergent arts is well aware of what would constitute an effective amount of builder additive. If an effective amount were not used, the detergent would not have calcium complexing properties and thus would not be effective. Accordingly, the examiner maintains the amount of carboxmethyl inulin present in the detergents of Verraest is effective and so the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

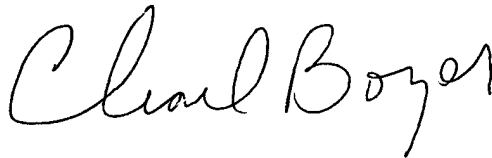
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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Boyer whose telephone number is (703) 308-2524. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If reasonable attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta, can be reached on (703) 308-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9310 for non-after-final amendments and (703) 872-9311 for after-final amendments.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Charles Boyer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Boyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name "Charles Boyer".

May 23, 2003